



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY

Professional cultural heritage consultants - branches nationwide

info@cfa-arch.co.uk



CAPABILITY
FLEXIBILITY
ASSURANCE

Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation
[Report No. 4478](#)

Author:
Rebecca Hunt BA MA MCIfA





CFA ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

info@cfa-arch.co.uk
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Authors	Rebecca Hunt BA MA MCIfA
Illustrator	Sam Griffith BA MSc PhD
Approver	Saskia Winslow BSc ACIfA
Commissioned by	Lampard Partnership
Version	3
Date Issued	May 2024
Grid Ref.	SK 38922 07489
Planning Application No.	23/01048/FUL
OASIS Reference	cfaarch1-524615
Accession Number	X.A32.2024

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd quality procedures.

**Land off Hall Lane
Odstone
Leicestershire**

Archaeological Evaluation

Report No. 4478

CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.....	3
2. WORKING METHODS	5
3. RESULTS.....	7
4. DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION	9
5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	9
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY	9

Tables

Table 2.1:	Contents of the Archive
Table 3.1:	Trench Summaries
Table 3.2:	Test Pit Summaries

Figures

Figure 1:	Site Location and Evaluation Plan
Figure 2.1:	Trenches 2 and 3 within the yard space of the cattle barn, facing north-west
Figure 2.2:	Trench 1, facing north
Figure 2.3:	Trench 2, facing, north-west
Figure 2.4:	Trench 3, facing south
Figure 2.5:	Test Pit 1, facing south
Figure 2.6:	Test Pit 2, facing south
Figure 2.7:	Test Pit 3, facing south
Figure 2.8:	Test pit locations, with cattle barn in and mature woodland in the background

Appendices

Appendix 1:	OASIS Summary
Appendix 2:	Written Scheme of Investigation

Summary

An archaeological trial trenching evaluation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd on land off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire on 22nd April 2024 to inform a planning application for the conversion of a building from agricultural to residential use. The site comprised a single storey red brick building set within a courtyard surrounded with a 2.3m high red brick wall. The wider site outside the courtyard comprises arable fields and a small block of mature woodland. The trial trenching was undertaken following input from the Senior Planning Archaeologist of the Leicestershire County Council. The evaluation observed no evidence for archaeological remains presents within the trial trenches or test pits.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 General

This report presents the results of archaeological trial trenching undertaken by CFA Archaeology Ltd (CFA) on 22nd April 2024 on land off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire (Fig. 1; NGR SK 38922 07489). The project code was HLOL, and the project number was 5187. The work was commissioned by Lampard Partnership Land and was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Auricchio-Bund 2024, Appendix 2) produced by CFA in consultation with the Senior Planning Archaeologist of the Leicestershire County Council (LCC).

The archaeological works were carried out in advance of the decision for an application for the conversion of an agricultural barn to a residential building, with associated groundworks (23/01048/FUL).

1.2 Site Location and Description

The Site was located approximately 550m south-west of the village of Odstone. The site was confined to a single land parcel, bounded by a wooden fence and surrounded by arable fields. The area of trial trenching comprised a single storey red brick building set within a courtyard surrounded with a 2.3m high red brick wall. Outside the courtyard, the land parcel was given over to arable farming, except to the north-west of the building which consisted of a small block of mature woodland (Fig. 1).

The land parcel was on a slight south-east facing slope from c.120m above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the north-west to 118m m AOD in the south-east.

The bedrock geology of the Site is recorded as mudstone of the Gunthorpe Member, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 247.1 and 237 million years ago in the Triassic period. Superficial deposits of diamicton of the Oadby member are recorded across the Site (BGS 2024). The soils of the site are characterised as slightly acidic by base-rich loamy and clay soils (LandIS 2024).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

The following is taken largely from the WSI produced by CFA Archaeology (Auricchio-Bund 2024, Appendix 2).

The village of Odstone is first mentioned in the Domesday Book (AD 1086) as Odestone, a word probably deriving from the Old Scandinavian male personal name Oddr and 'tun' meaning farmstead, village or small estate - therefore 'the settlement associated with Oddr'. Alternately, 'oddr' can also mean a protruding piece of land, often higher than its surroundings – therefore 'the settlement on a protrusion of land' (Bourne 2003, 69)

Several archaeological sites are known within a 1km radius of the site and are listed in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER).

Of relevance to this project, the site lies within the village's historic settlement core (HER ref. MLE3151). Approximately 50m to the east lies an area of former village closes with stone scatters marking the sites of possible buildings (MLE3136), whilst to the north lies the site of a possible medieval chapel (MLE3145).

There is evidence of the area's prehistory, an early Bronze Age axe (MLE6363), has been found in the garden of Odstone Hall, to the south of the Site. The area appears to be part of a diverse prehistoric landscape, characterized by an array of Bronze Age and Iron Age features including ring ditches, ditch alignments and pit alignments recorded to the north, near Walkers Farm, and to the east, east of Odstone Barn Farm.

More recently, the site's environs have been influenced by the presence of Odstone Hall. This Grade II Listed building (MLE13048) is a 17th century timber framed house that has been remodelled in the later 18th century. East of the site, late 19th century maps show a series of ponds (MLE22213) probably associated with the hall, whilst to the south-west a raised terrace has been noted as possibly marking the site of a demolished building or garden feature (MLE17266).

1.4 Previous Archaeological Investigations

No previous archaeological investigations are known to have been undertaken on this site.

1.5 Project Aims

In accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI; Auricchio-Bund 2024, Appendix 2), the aims of the excavation were to:

- To undertake a trial trench evaluation to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits.
- To identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development.
- To establish the potential impacts of the proposed development and associated infrastructure and to allow mitigation measures to be proposed, where appropriate.

2. WORKING METHODS

2.1 Standards and Guidance

CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Work was conducted with regard to the Institute's Standards documents (CIfA 2020a-b, 2022 and 2023a-B), relevant Historic England guidance documents (Historic England 2011, 2015a-b and 2016), relevant guidance from the Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England, the WSI (Auricchio-Bund 2024, Appendix 2) and risk assessment compiled by CFA. The archaeological works were undertaken in liaison with the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC).

Trenches were recorded by means of photographs, digital and written records conforming to CIfA standards (CIfA 2020b) and CFA's quality manuals. Trenches were located and planned using an industry standard Trimble GPS. The same equipment was used to establish levels above Ordnance Datum for the areas of archaeological investigation.

2.2 Excavation Methodology

Three 5m by 2m trenches, and 3 2m by 2m test pits were due to be excavated across the development site. However, as a 5-tonne excavator was used, the widths were reduced to 1.6m, based on the width of the ditching bucket. The Senior Planning Archaeologist at LCC was informed of all changes. The locations and the rationale for the trenches and test pits were specified in the WSI; this included evaluating the areas of greatest impact within the proposed development.

A tracked 360-degree mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket was used to remove topsoil and subsequent material in spits of no more than 0.1m. All machine excavation was directed by CFA's on-site supervisor and was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil was stockpiled adjacent to the trenches and test pits, and any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.

A visual inspection of the Site was undertaken before the commencement of works, including identification of any surface features of potential archaeological interest, areas of potentially significant disturbance, and any hazards or constraints in undertaking further archaeological work on the Site.

2.3 Monitoring

Close contact was maintained with the client and the Senior Planning Archaeologist at LCC for the purposes of monitoring the project. All trenches and test pits were remotely assessed and signed off by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at LCC following completion of the archaeological investigation.

2.5 Dissemination and Archiving

A summary of the results of archaeological works has been submitted for inclusion in OASIS. The OASIS reference is cfaarch1-524615.

Phase	File/Box No.	Description	Quantity
Evaluation	File no. 1	Context register sheets	1
		Context sheets	2
		Trench record sheets	6
		Digital photographic register sheets	2

Table 2.1: Contents of the Evaluation Archive

The documentary and digital archive are due to be deposited with Leicestershire Museum Service under the accession number X.A32.2024. This report will be subject to the Sterile Project Guidance (2024) that outlines below:

The digital version of this would be a PDF/A file containing:

- The site report and any appendices
- All relevant digital photographs reproduced at a suitable scale and resolution
- Any drawings or plans produced at a suitable scale and resolution.

The all-in-one report must be uploaded onto OASIS. A digital copy of the site report will still be sent to the HER (.pdf/A-1a or equivalent archival format).

Upload must take place at least four months prior to an LCC Museums Deposition Window and the Archive Curator should be notified at the same time

3. RESULTS

3.1 General

Detailed descriptions of the trenches and test pits appear in Section 3.3. A summary of the contexts from the evaluation are included within the trench and test pit descriptions. The results should be read in conjunction with Figures 1-2.

3.2 Topsoil, Subsoil, and Natural Deposits

Across the Site the topsoil generally consisted of a silty clay-based soil, with occasional small to medium angular to sub-rounded stones. Within the confines of the barn area, the inclusions were greater and with the exceptions of a scattering of pebbles, largely related to the dereliction of the original barn, which had been recently restored (Fig, 2.1). The topsoil averaged 0.44m thick, though it was noted, outside the footprint of the barn, the topsoil reduced in thickness from north-west to south-east. The topsoil overlay the natural geology, which generally consisted of yellow-orange clay, mottled with light blue, yellow and brown silty-clays.

3.3 Trenches and Test Pits

No archaeological features were identified within this evaluation.

Trench	Description	Size (m)	Depth (m)
1	Trench 1 orientated N-S on grass ground cover. Base of the trench was measured at 117.25m aOD. See Figure 2.2. Topsoil was a mid-greyish brown clayey soil. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty clay mottled with pale yellow brown and brown-red silty clay and degraded stone. No archaeological remains present.	5 x 1.6	0.52
2	Trench 2 orientated NW-SE on grass and scrub ground cover. Base of the trench was measured at 117.21m aOD. See Figure 2.3. Topsoil was a mid-greyish brown clayey soil, with slate and brick rubble from a former phase of the barn building. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty clay mottled with pale orange-yellow and blue clay and degraded stone. No archaeological remains present.	5 x 1.6	0.39

Trench	Description	Size (m)	Depth (m)
3	Trench 3 orientated N-S on grass and scrub ground cover. Base of the trench was measured at 117.03m aOD. See Figure 2.4. Topsoil was a mid-greyish brown clayey soil, with pebble inclusions and brick rubble from a former phase of the barn building. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty clay mottled with pale blue and brown-red silty clay. No archaeological remains present.	5 x 1.6	0.51

Table 3.1: Trench Summaries

Test Pit	Description	Size (m)	Depth (m)
1	Test Pit 1 orientated N-S on grass ground cover. Base of the test pit was measured at 117.23m aOD. See Figure ... Topsoil was a md greyish brown clayey soil. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty mottled with pale blue, yellow-brown and brown-red silty clay and degraded stone. One horseshoe field drain was identified in the south-west corner, orientated north-west to south-east. No archaeological remains present.	2 x 1.6	0.52
2	Test Pit 2 orientated N-S on grass ground cover. Base of the test pit was measured at 117.11m aOD. See Figure ... Topsoil was a md greyish brown clayey soil. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty clay mottled with pale-mid blue and brown-red silty clay. No archaeological remains present.	2 x 1.6	0.4
3	Test Pit 3 orientated N-S on grass ground cover. Base of the test pit was measured at 116.76m aOD. See Figure ... Topsoil was a md greyish brown clayey soil. No subsoil was identified. The natural substrate was a mid-yellow-orange silty clay mottled with pale blue, yellow-brown and brown-red silty clay and degraded stone. No archaeological remains present.	2 x 1.6	0.39

Table 3.2: Test Pit Summaries

4. DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION

The trial trenching evaluation carried out at the Site revealed no archaeological remains present. The land parcel was under the ownership of Earl Howe, occupier of Odstone Hall (MLE13048) in the 19th century. The tithe and apportionments of 1840 detail the land parcel as Davenports Close, under the occupation of Richard Spencer. No building was recorded within this land parcel, which is a good indicator that no built structure existed on this land at this time. The 1861 census records a John Spencer as Head of the household at Odstone Hall; farming 402 acres of land with 4 labourers and 2 boys, though no Spencer's are recorded in association with Odstone Hall by 1871.

The 1st edition 6-inch and 25-inch Ordnance Survey maps (1885 and 1886, respectively) records a building of the same footprint as the current open-fronted barn building, with the field boundary extending north-west and south-east of the south-west elevation. This is approximately 10m north-east of the current boundary. It is possible that the barn was constructed as a result of the change from the Spencer family to the Baris family; farmers of 404 acres of land at Odstone Hall as recorded in the 1871 census. Brick built cattle barns, particularly for dairying, were an important part of farmsteads during the 19th century (English Heritage 2006).

The current landowners used to use the barn to overwinter and overnight dairy cows within the barn and yard space. They have taken to repairing the cattle barn, in recent history, utilising the original iron pillars, and walls where they still survive, and original materials such as brick and slate. The farm no longer practices dairy farming and have moved into arable stock.

The small block of mature woodland to the north-west of the current farm building is recorded as a plantation of Earl Howe in the Tithe and Apportionments and has continued as a woodland into modern times.

5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

CFA would like to thank Lampard Partnership for commissioning the work, and their hospitality whilst on site. The fieldwork project was managed by Jamie Walker and directed by Rebecca Hunt assisted by Cassandra Clay. Plant was provided by Lampard Partnership and the project was monitored by the Senior Planning Archaeologist at LCC.

6. BIBLIOGRAPHY

APABE 2017 *Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England

Auricchio-Bund, A 2024 *Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire: Written Scheme of Investigation: Archaeological Evaluation*. CFA Archaeology Ltd.

CIfA 2020a *Standard for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2020b *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2022 *Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology*. Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

CIfA 2023a *Standard for Archaeological Field Evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CIfA 2023b *Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

English Heritage, 2006, *Historic Farmsteads: preliminary character statement – East Midlands Region*, University of Gloucestershire in association with English Heritage and the Countryside Agency

Historic England, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology; A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*, Historic England, (2nd edition)

Historic England, 2015a, *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, (MoRPHE), Project Managers' Guide, Historic England.

Historic England, 2015b, *Digital Image Capture and File Storage*, Historic England

Historic England, 2016, *Standards for Recording Pottery in Archaeology*, Historic England

Leicestershire County Council Museums, 2024, *Sterile Project Guidance*, Museum Collections

ULAS 2015, *Archaeological Investigations at Odstone Barn, Hall Road, Odstone, Leicestershire*. Report Ref: 2015-175

Online Resources

British Geological Survey, 2023, *Geology of Britain (viewer)*, <https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/> [Accessed 26/04/2024]

LandIS, 2022, *Soiclsapes Viewer*, <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes> [Accessed 26/04/2023]

Cartographic

Ordnance Survey 1885 Leicestershire Sheet XXIX.NW, Six inch to one statute mile

Ordnance Survey 1886 Leicestershire Sheet XXIX.2, Twenty-five inch to one statute mile

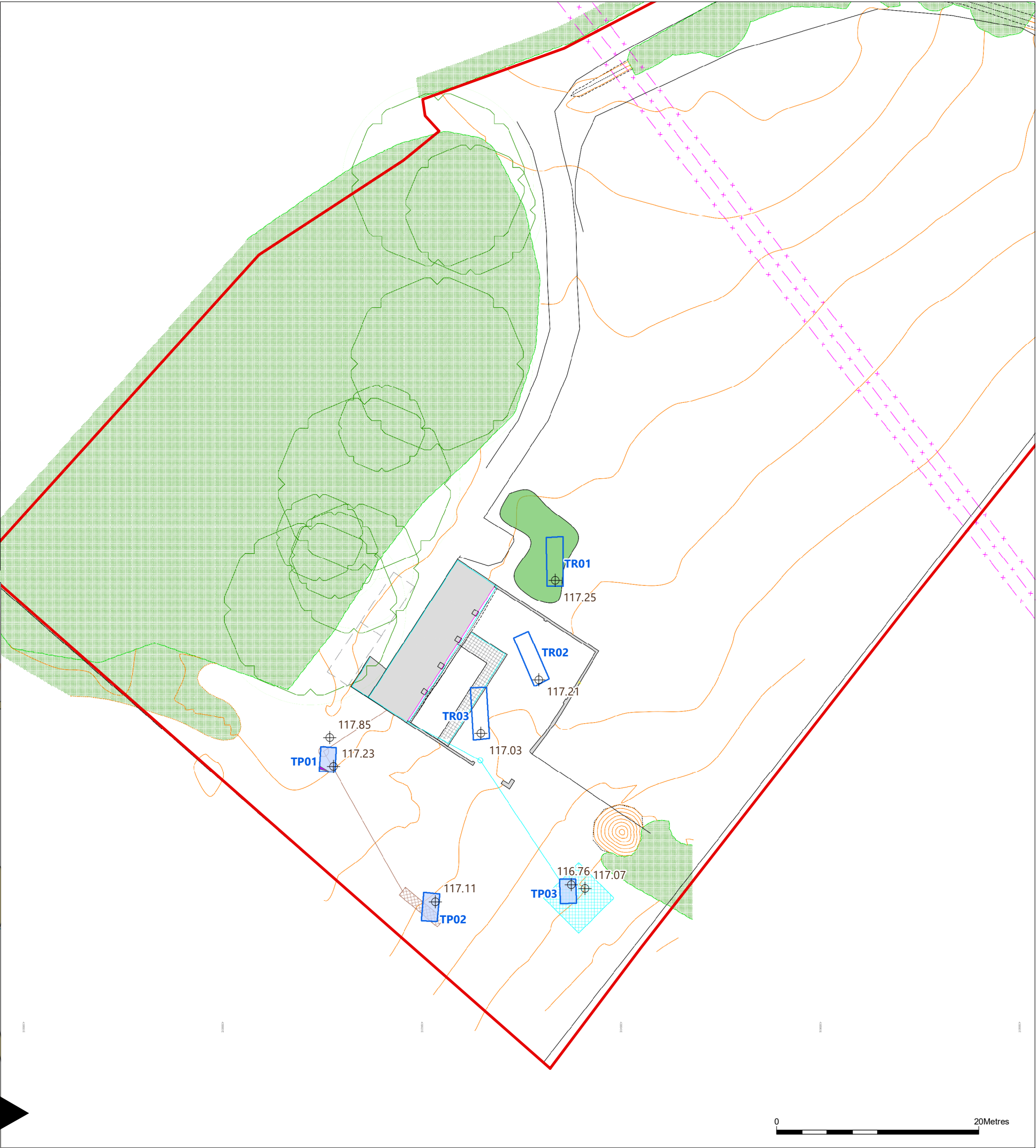
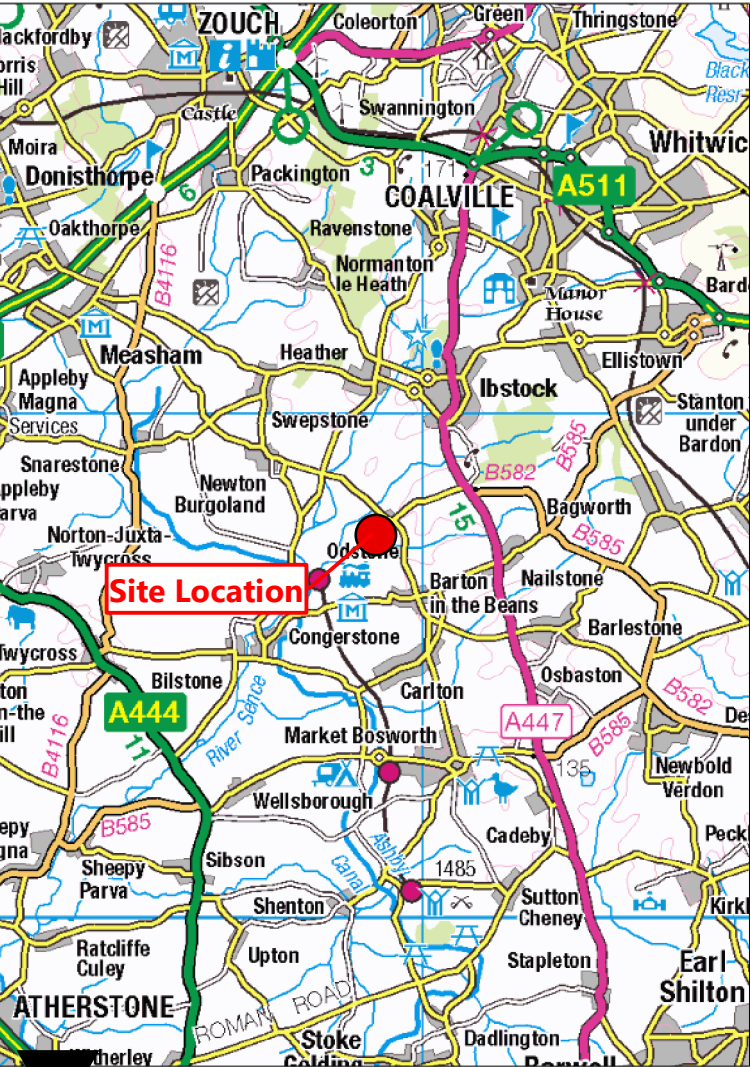
Tithe Plan & Apportionments 1840 *Township of Odstone in the Parish of Shackerston, in the County of Leicester.*

Census

'Odstone Hall', 1861 *Census Return for the Township of Odstone in the Ecclesiastical District of Peterborough* Public Record Office R.G.9/2265

Odstone Hall', 1871 *Census Return for the Township of Odstone in the Ecclesiastical District of Peterborough.* Public Record Office R.G.10/3241

FIGURES



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench
- Test Pit
- Field Drain
- Spot Height

Reproduced with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, © Crown copyright. CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh EH21 7PQ AL100034785

CFA
ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

Title:
Site Location and Evaluation Layout

Project:
Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Client:
Lampard Partnership

Scale at A3:
1:400

Drawn by: SG	Checked: SW	Date: 01/05/2024
Report No: 4478	Fig. No: 1	



Fig. 2.1: Trenches 2 and 3 within the yard space of the cattle barn, facing north-west



Fig. 2.2: Trench 1, facing north



Client:
Lampard Partnership

Project:
Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Drawn by:
SG

Checked:
SW

Date:
01/05/2024

Report No:
4478



Fig. 2.3: Trench 2, facing, north-west



Fig. 2.4: Trench 3, facing south



Client:
Lampard Partnership

Project:
Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Drawn by:
SG

Checked:
SW

Date:
01/05/2024

Report No:
4478



Fig. 2.5: Test Pit, facing south

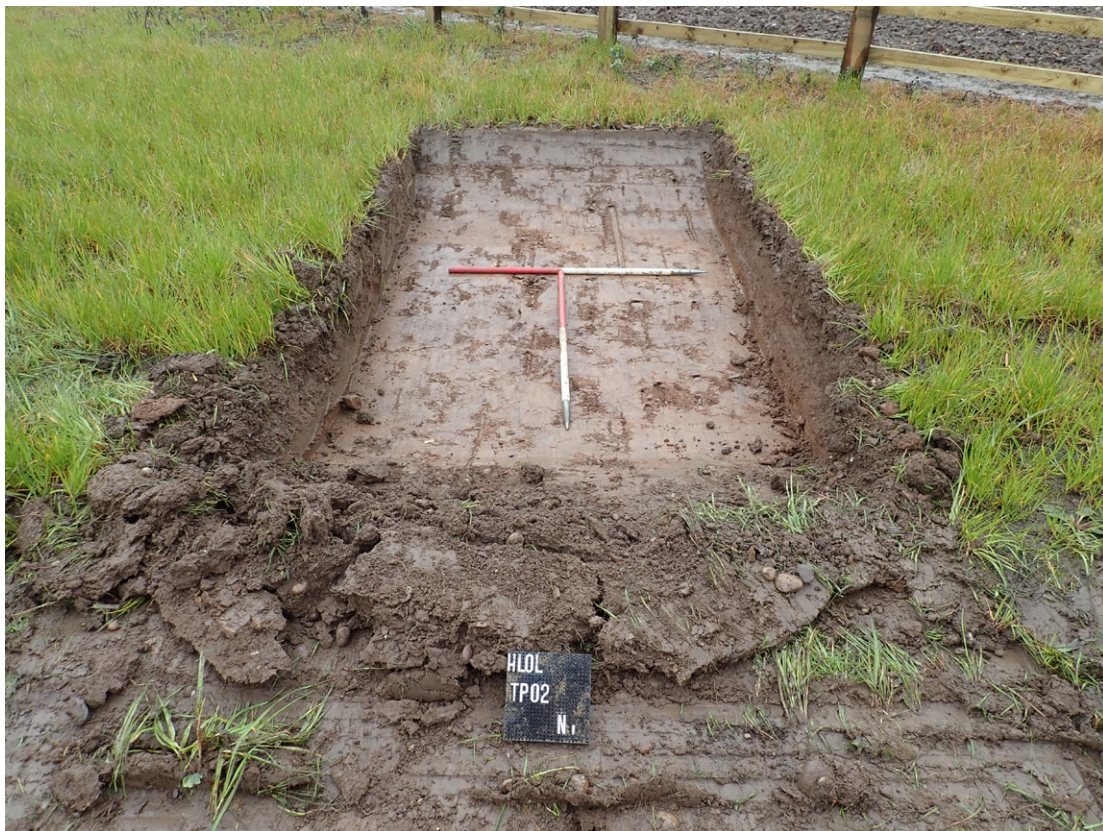


Fig. 2.6: Test Pit, facing south



Client: Lampard Partnership	Drawn by: SG	Date: 01/05/2024
Project: Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire	Checked: SW	Report No: 4478



Fig. 2.7: Test Pit, facing south



Fig. 2.8: Test pit locations, with cattle barn in and mature woodland in the background



Client:
Lampard Partnership

Project:
Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Drawn by:
SG

Checked:
SW

Date:
01/05/2024

Report No:
4478

Appendix 1: OASIS Summary

OASIS Summary for cfaarcha1-524615

OASIS ID (UID)	cfaarcha1-524615
Project Name	Archaeological Evaluation at Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire, United Kingdom
Sitename	Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Shackerstone, Hinckley and Bosworth, United Kingdom
Sitecode	HLOL
Project Identifier(s)	HLOL
Activity type	Evaluation, Trial Trench
Planning Id	23/01048/FUL
Reason For Investigation	Planning: Between application and determination
Organisation Responsible for work	CFA Archaeology Ltd
Project Dates	22-Apr-2024 - 22-Apr-2024
Location	Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Shackerstone, Hinckley and Bosworth, United Kingdom NGR : SK 38923 07485 LL : 52.663695, -1.425927 12 Fig : 438923,307485
Administrative Areas	Country : England County/Local Authority : Leicestershire Local Authority District : Hinckley and Bosworth Parish : Shackerstone
Project Methodology	A tracked 5-tonne 360-degree mechanical excavator fitted with a wide toothless ditching bucket was used to remove topsoil and subsequent material in spits of no more than 0.1m. All machine excavation was directed by CFA's on-site supervisor and was carried out under constant archaeological supervision. Topsoil was stockpiled adjacent to the trenches and test pits, and any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation was carried out by hand.
Project Results	The evaluation observed no evidence for archaeological remains presents within the trial trenches or test pits.
Keywords	
Funder	Private or public corporation Lampard Partnership
HER	Leicestershire HER - unRev - STANDARD
Person Responsible for work	J Walker
HER Identifiers	HER Monument No - MLE13048
Archives	Physical Archive, Digital Archive - to be deposited with Leicestershire County Council Museums;

Appendix 2: Written Scheme of Investigation



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY

Professional cultural heritage consultants - branches nationwide

info@cfa-arch.co.uk

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION



Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire

Archaeological Evaluation
[Planning Ref. 23/01048/FUL](#)

Author(s):
Alessio Auricchio-Bund BA MA ACIfA



CFA Archaeology Ltd

Clayton Business Centre
Midland Road
Leeds
LS10 2RJ

Tel: 0113 271 6060

Email: Yorkshire@cfa-arch.co.uk
Web: www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

Author	Alessio Auricchio-Bund MA ACIfA
Illustrator	Shelly Werner BSc MPhil PhD MCIfA
Approved	Jamie Walker BSc PCIfA
Commissioned by	Lampard Partnership
Date issued	April 2024
Version	V3
Planning Application No.	23/01048/FUL
National Grid Ref	438922 307489
Accession Number	X.A32.2024

This document has been prepared in accordance with CFA Archaeology Ltd
standard operating procedures

**Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone,
Leicestershire**

**Written Scheme of Investigation:
Archaeological Evaluation**

CONTENTS

1. Introduction	3
2. Site Background	4
3. Historic Background	4
4. Project Objectives	5
5. Archaeological Methods	5
6. Analysis and Reporting	8
7. Resources and Programming	11

TABLES

Table 1: List of Artefact and Ecofact Specialists

FIGURES

Fig. 1: Site Location and Proposed Trench Layout

Land Off Hall Lane, Odstone, Leicestershire: Archaeological Evaluation

Written Scheme of Investigation

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been prepared by CFA Archaeology for Andrew Large Surveyors Ltd on behalf of Lampard Partnership Land and details the methodology for undertaking an archaeological trial-trenching evaluation at Land Off Hall Lane Hall Lane Odston, Leicestershire (NGR SK 438922 307489, the Site).
- 1.2 A planning application has been submitted (Application no. 23/01048/FUL) for the change of use of a building from agricultural to residential and associated ground works. The Senior Planning Archaeologist provided input and considerations regarding the archaeological aspects of the proposed changes:

The Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that the application site lies within the medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of Odstone (HER Ref.: MLE3151). Odstone was a chapelry of Shackerstone in 1220, the chapel had decayed by 1630 and its location is unknown. The name 'Church Field' has previously been noted south-west of Odstone Hall and it was suggested that the small tree-filled enclosure to the north of the current application area may be the site of the chapel (MLE3145). There is therefore a potential for burials within the current application area from the surroundings of the chapel. There is also an additional potential for the remains of the structure itself, activities associated with the chapel, or remains relating to the wider medieval and post-medieval historic settlement core of Odstone.

The preservation of archaeological remains is, of course, a "material consideration" in the determination of planning applications. The proposals include operations that may destroy any buried archaeological remains that are present, but the archaeological implications cannot be adequately assessed on the basis of the currently available information. Since it is possible that archaeological remains may be adversely affected by this proposal, we recommend that the planning authority defer determination of the application and request that the applicant complete an Archaeological Impact Assessment of the proposals.

This will require provision by the applicant for: 1. A field evaluation, by appropriate techniques including trial trenching, if identified necessary in the assessment, to identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance, and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development. Further design, civil engineering or archaeological work may then be necessary to achieve this.

2. Site Background

- 2.1 The site is located outside of the village of Odstone in Leicestershire. It comprises a single storey red brick building set within a courtyard surrounded with a 2.3m high red brick wall. The wider site outside the courtyard are arable fields and a small block of mature woodland. The Root Protection Area's of the trees most likely to be potentially affected by the development have been plotted on the topographical survey data, and any development has been kept out of these areas to prevent any harm to their future integrity. (Fig.1).
- 2.2 A section of the access track from the main track connecting Hall Lane and Tivey's farm has been partially relocated and narrowed, to ensure no vehicles traverse over the RPA's and represent a betterment in terms of their protection.
- 2.3 The bedrock geology of the Site is recorded as mudstone of the Gunthorpe Member, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 247.1 and 237 million years ago in the Triassic period. Superficial deposits of diamicton of the Oadby member is recorded across the Site (BGS 2024). The Site is located to the south-west of the village of Odstone and is bound by agricultural fields on all sides, with a wooded area in the south-west of the Site and trees and shrubs around the boundaries (Fig. 1).

3. Historic Background

- 3.1 The village of Odstone is first mentioned in the Domesday Book (AD 1086) as Odestone, a word probably deriving from the Old Scandinavian male personal name Oddr and 'tun' meaning farmstead, village or small estate - therefore 'the settlement associated with Oddr'. Alternately, 'oddr' can also mean a protruding piece of land, often higher than its surroundings – therefore 'the settlement on a protrusion of land' (Bourne 2003, 69)
- 3.2 Several archaeological sites are known within a 1km radius of the site and are listed in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 3.3 Of relevance to this project, the site lies within the village's historic settlement core (HER ref. MLE3151). Approximately 50m to the east lies an area of former village closes with stone scatters marking the sites of possible buildings (MLE3136), whilst to the north lies the site of a possible medieval Chapel (MLE3145).
- 3.4 Evidence of the area's prehistory, an early Bronze Age axe (MLE6363), has been found in the garden of Odstone Hall, to the south and the area appears to be part of a diverse prehistoric landscape, characterized by an array of Bronze Age and Iron Age features including ring ditches, ditch alignments and pit alignments recorded to the north, near Walkers Farm, and to the east, east of Odstone Barn Farm. More recently, the site's environs have been influenced by the presence of Odstone Hall. This Grade II Listed building (MLE13048) is a 17th century timber framed house that has been remodelled in the later 18th century. East of the site,

late 19th century maps show a series of ponds (MLE22213) probably associated with the hall, whilst to the south-west a raised terrace has been noted as possibly marking the site of a demolished building or garden feature (MLE17266).

4. Project Objectives

4.1 The aims of the excavation are:

- To undertake a trial trench evaluation to establish the presence/absence, extent, condition, character, quality and date of any archaeological features or deposits.
- To identify and locate any archaeological remains of significance and propose suitable treatment to avoid or minimise damage by the development.
- To establish the potential impacts of the proposed development and associated infrastructure and to allow mitigation measures to be proposed, where appropriate.
-

5. Archaeological Methods

5.1 CFA Archaeology is a registered organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Work will be conducted regarding the Institute's Standards documents (CIfA 2020a-b and 2023a-b), relevant Historic England guidance documents (Historic England 2011, 2015a and 2015b), and this WSI. Recording of all elements will be done following established CFA procedures. The archaeological works will be undertaken in liaison with the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC).

5.2 Should there be unexpectedly significant or complex discoveries that warrant more detailed recorded than is described in this WSI, the archaeological contractor, CFA Archaeology Ltd., will contact the monitoring archaeologist for LCC Archaeology with the relevant information.

5.3 A visual inspection of the Site will be undertaken before the commencement of works, including identification of any surface features of potential archaeological interest, areas of potentially significant disturbance, and any hazards or constraints in undertaking further archaeological work on site.

Method of Excavation

5.4 3no. 5m x 2m trenches, have been proposed across the Site to assess the potential for surviving archaeological remains and depths of overburden. These trenches will be strategically positioned within the proposed native scrub mix areas and within the structure itself. Additionally, 3no. 2m x 2m test pits will be situated to specifically investigate discrete locations such as the "PTP", "drainage field", and soakaway.

The locations of these trenches and test pits are depicted on Figure 1.

- 5.5 The trenches and the test pits will be machine excavated using a wide toothless ditching bucket operated under direct archaeological supervision. Topsoil and subsoil will be removed to the level of the natural substrate or the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever is reached first., in successive level spits of a maximum 0.2m thickness. Machine excavation will be halted if archaeological deposits are encountered and any further excavation required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation will be carried out by hand, unless otherwise agreed with LCC Archaeology.
- 5.6 Samples of all features of archaeological interest will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner to establish their likely date, nature, extent, and condition. The complete stratigraphic sequence, including natural geological deposits, will be excavated and all inter-relationships and intersections between features will be investigated.
- 5.7 A minimum 20% sample will be taken of any linear features, such as ditches or trackways, and all ditch, gully, and other feature termini will be investigated. Each sample section should be at least 1 metre long and, where possible, located and recorded adjacent to the trench edge.
- 5.8 A minimum 50% sample of discrete features, such as pits, postholes, stakeholes, and kilns will be excavated. Where possible, sample sections will be located and recorded adjacent to the trench edge.
- 5.9 Built structures such as walls and floors will be 100% excavated to determine their form, phasing, and construction technique. All intersections will be investigated fully.
- 5.10 Samples of all features of archaeological interest will be hand excavated in an archaeologically controlled and stratigraphic manner to establish their likely date, nature, extent, and condition. The complete stratigraphic sequence, down to natural geological deposits, will be excavated and all inter-relationships and intersections between features will be investigated.
- 5.11 The trenches and the test pits will be machine backfilled on completion of excavation once sign-off has been received from the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC)

Method of Recording

- 5.12 All excavation and on-site recording will be carried out according to standard CFA procedures, principally by drawing, photography, and completing standard CFA record forms.
- 5.13 The location of the trenches and test pits will be recorded using industry standard surveying equipment and tied to the OS National Grid. Vertical survey control will be tied to the Ordnance Survey Datum.

- 5.14 Sections will be recorded by means of a measured drawing at an appropriate scale, typically at 1:10. The height of a datum on the drawing will be calculated and recorded. The locations of sections will be recorded on the site plans, relative to the site grid.
- 5.15 Cut features will be recorded in profile, planned at an appropriate scale, normally 1:20, and their location accurately identified on the appropriate trench and site plans.
- 5.15 Photographs will include an appropriate scale, an arrow to indicate the direction or north, and a photo information board. All photographs will be recorded on a photographic register detailing subject, location, and direction of shot. Photographs taken will adhere to Historic England's guidance '*Digital Image Capture and File Storage*' (Historic England, 2015). Photographs should be taken with a high-resolution digital SLR camera with sensors exceeding 12 Mega pixels and taken using the highest quality setting. Images will then be converted, adjusted, and saved as 8-bit TIFFs for archive purposes. All digital photographs should have metadata embedded into the file that includes date taken, location, photographer's name, and copyright restrictions.

Artefact and Environmental Recovery

- 5.16 Spoil heaps are to be scanned for ferrous and non-ferrous metal artefacts using a metal detector capable of making this discrimination and operated by a capable metal detectorist. Modern (c. 20th century onward) artefacts are to be noted but not retained.
- 5.17 All artefacts, including faunal remains, will be retained for analysis. Post-excavation storage requirements will be assessed. Modern finds (c. 20th century onward) will be recorded but not retained. Collection and post-excavation work on artefacts will follow current ClfA guidance (ClfA 2020).
- 5.18 If any finds are uncovered which may fall under the purview of the Treasure Act 1996, the terms of the aforementioned Act will be followed. Any finds will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner. Where removal cannot be affected on the same day as discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 5.19 Any human remains encountered will be reported to the appropriate authorities and left *in situ*, covered, and protected. Any discovery of human remains should be promptly reported to the LCC planning archaeologist. Additionally, it is advised to inform the coroner immediately upon their discovery. If removal is deemed necessary, a Ministry of Justice Burial License will be obtained, and excavation will comply with the relevant regulations and government guidance (CFA internal policy, *Guidance for Best Practice for Treatment of Human Remains*

Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England Advisory Panel on the Archaeology of Burials in England [APABE] 2017).

- 5.20 CFA's Palaeoenvironmental specialist will: assess the environmental potential of the site; advise on whether the deposits have potential for conducting palaeobotanical or other soil analysis; and assess the potential for the preservation of faunal remains. Environmental sampling will be carried out in accordance with current guidelines (Historic England 2011), namely that bulk samples will be taken from all securely stratified deposits using a strategy of systematic and judgement sampling.
- 5.21 Samples will consist of 40 litres of environmental material recovered from, at a minimum, the basal deposits of any archaeological features. Environmental samples will not usually be recovered from intersections or unclear relationship sample sections.

6. Analysis and Reporting

Artefact and Environmental Sample Analysis

- 6.1 All finds, if appropriate, will be retained, washed, and assessed in accordance to accepted professional standards. For all categories of material recovered, including finds, palaeoenvironmental, industrial, and other specialist samples, an assessment by an appropriately experienced specialist will be undertaken. Samples will be processed and sorted, and any artefacts recovered provided to the appropriate specialist(s) to be considered alongside the hand-recovered material. Basic stratigraphic information will be supplied to the project specialists.
- 6.2 All finds are to be treated in accordance with current best practice guidance (Campbell et al. 2011). Finds will be cleaned and marked according to accepted principles and in line with appropriate period/material guidelines.
- 6.3 For ceramic assemblages, recording shall be carried out in a manner compatible with existing typological series in local pottery reference collections. The guidelines for the standards of pottery recording in archaeology (HE 2016)
- 6.4 Environmental samples will be processed to aid in the recovery of artefactual material, including ceramics, animal and fish bones, human remains, industrial residues, charcoal, and mineralised plant remains. Specialist samples such as monoliths or cores will be processed separately, as appropriate.
- 6.5 Where material suitable for scientific dating is recovered, such as charcoal or bone, sufficient dating will be undertaken to meet the aims of the excavation. These materials will be identified to species and assessed for suitability prior to submission to a dating laboratory.

- 6.6 Artefact assessment reports will include the production of a descriptive catalogue including quantification of finds by context and discussion or interpretation, if appropriate. Finds critical for dating or interpretation will be illustrated or digitally photographed. Environmental assessment reports will include the identification of the remains, a quantification by context, appropriate discussion or interpretation, and a description of the processing methodology.

Reporting

- 6.7 A report will be produced which includes background information on the project, a description of the methodology, and a full description and interpretation of the results.

- 6.8 Specifically, the report will contain:

- A concise non-technical summary of the project results;
- The site location given as an 8-figure grid reference;
- A front cover/frontispiece which includes the planning application number and the national grid reference of the site;
- The dates on which the work was undertaken;
- A description of the site location and geology;
- A description of the historic and archaeological background of the site;
- An explanation of any agreed variations from the WSI, including justification for any work not undertaken;
- A description of the methodology employed, work undertaken, and the results obtained.
- Contexts and feature descriptions;
- Maps and other illustrations at an appropriate scale including sections and detailed plans of all excavated features;
- A specialist assessment report for all finds materials including palaeoenvironmental and other samples;
- A description of any environmental or other specialist work undertaken and outline of the results obtained;
- A selection of photographs of work in progress;
- Recommendations regarding the need for, and scope of, any further archaeological work;
- A discussion of how the work contributed to the aims and objectives set out in the project design;
- A bibliography;
- A context index;
- An archive index;
- An OASIS summary sheet

- 6.9 A draft copy of the report will be issued to the Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC) for comment before being finalised. A copy of the report (PDF-A format) will be sent directly to the Leicestershire County Council, Historic Environment Record (LCC HER). One digital copy (PDF-A format)

and one unbound hard copy of the final report will be deposited with an appropriate museum within a suitable timescale following the completion of fieldwork. This will ensure that the report is made available as a public document as part of the Historic Environment Record.

- 6.10 If significant remains are encountered, then arrangements will be made for the publication of results within an appropriate journal.

Archive Preparation and Deposition

- 6.11 Archiving should be prepared in accordance with the LMS current guidelines in addition to other appropriate guidelines (ClfA 2020b). Arrangements should also be made with LMS for deposition of the archive and an appropriate repository. As a minimum a summary of findings should be submitted to the 'Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society (LAHS). The Accession number for this project is X.A32.2024

- 6.12 It is expected that Leicestershire Museum will accept the complete excavation archive, including primary site records, research archives, and finds. CFA Archaeology will prepare the excavation archive to meet the selected museum's deposition requirements.

- 6.13 The Leicestershire County Historic Environment Record (HER) will be provided with spatial data of the evaluation trenches and test pits which will be submitted in a suitable GIS format.

- 6.14 CFA are ISO 9001 accredited, with all our internal archiving and digital record systems being fully compliant with ClfA Standards and Guidance, particularly the guidance on Planning and Data Management Plans for Archaeological Projects (2022). The digital archive will be subject to a selection process, depending on the results of the works, and the resulting digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS). All digital deposition will be undertaken in line with guidance from ADS (2023) and ClfA (2022).

- 6.15 Consent for full transfer of title of finds to the recipient museum will be agreed in principle with the landowner at the outset. Confirmation of transfer of title from the landowner, and confirmation of assignment of copyright, along with a full archive inventory, will be submitted with a project completion form to the recipient museum. The Leicestershire County Historic Environment Record (HER) officer will be provided with a copy of the completion form, including the assigned accession number.

- 6.16 The recipient archive will be licensed to use the deposited material in perpetuity, without restrictions; this licence will allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.

- 6.17 The requirements of the repository will be adhered to, and the Leicestershire County HER will be notified in advance. Contact will be made with the archiving museum prior to the start of any fieldwork to confirm their acceptance of the archive and to receive an accession number. The nominated museum will be notified at set stages of the project, including at project initiation (comprising a project initiation form), a mid-point review, and completion stages, to discuss archaeological archiving requirements.
- 6.18 An online OASIS form will be completed within three months of the completion of the work. An appropriately formatted copy of the report will also be uploaded to OASIS within three months of the completion of the work.

7. Resources and Programming

Key Personnel

Martin Lightfoot (BA MA MCIfA) is the Regional Manager for CFA Archaeology Milton Keynes. Martin has project managed numerous archaeological projects of all periods throughout the country including those undertaken for large and complex infrastructure projects.

A **Field Director** from CFA will be selected from CFA's pool of Field Officers, depending on availability, all of whom have appropriate experience. The CV for the selected Field Officer can be forwarded prior to the start of the project.

Dr Shelly Werner (BSc MPhil PhD) is CFA's Graphics Manager, responsible for the organisation and management of all GIS, CAD and Illustrative material. She is an experienced illustrator with specialist knowledge in GIS consultancy and standing building survey and has worked on a variety of projects in Scotland and England.

Post-excavation and environmental coordination will be managed by CFAs post excavation and archiving manager **Christina Hills**; CVs for CFA's 'in house' specialists or external consultants can be supplied on request.

8.2 Project Specialists

Archaeobotany	Mhairi Hastie BSc MSc ACIfA (CFA Archaeology)
Archaeozoology	Hannah Russ MA PhD FSA
Ceramic building material	Phil Mills BA MA PhD
Clay pipes	Peter Hammond
Conservation laboratory	Ian Panter (York Archaeological Trust)
Dendrochronology	Ian Tyers
Industrial residue	Gerry McDonnell PhD
Leather	Quita Mould
Mollusca and fish remains	Hannah Russ MA PhD FSA
Neolithic and Bronze Age pottery	Alex Gibson PhD

Osteoarchaeology	Malin Holst MSc
Palynology	Robert McCulloch BA PhD (University of Stirling)
Post-medieval small finds	Gail Drinkall
Post-Roman pottery	Paul Blinkhorn BA PhD
Roman and Pre-Roman Iron Age pottery	Jamie Walker (CFA Archaeology) / Phil Mills
Roman glass	Hilary Cool
Soil micromorphology	Clare Ellis BA PhD MCIfA
Worked bone	Gail Drinkall
Worked Flint and Stone	Ann Clarke

Table 1: List of Artefact and Ecofact Specialists

- 7.2 The above list is not exhaustive, should unusual or locally specific archaeological materials be discovered; appropriate specialists will be sort on the advice of the regional Historic England scientific advisor.

8. Health and Safety and the Environment

- 8.1 All CFA staff have been inducted into CFA's Health and Safety Policy and will operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. All work for the project will be subject to Risk Assessment procedures and a Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS) will be produced, disseminated, and agreed with all staff on site.
- 8.2 CFA's ISO140001:2015 certification is a sign that we take environmental matters within the company seriously; we are mindful of our environmental footprint and are constantly looking for ways in which to limit our environmental impact without compromising the quality of our work or the service we provide to our clients. Copies of our environmental policies are available on request.

9.Monitoring

- 9.1 Close contact will be maintained with the client and Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC) for the purposes of monitoring the project. Important or unexpected discoveries will be communicated to them, and a monitoring visit will be arranged if appropriate. Any monitoring visit will include a site tour and overview by the senior archaeologist present and the opportunity will be afforded to view all trenches, test pits, artefactual finds still on site, and any records that are not in immediate use.
- 9.2 Senior Planning Archaeologist at Leicestershire County Council (LCC) will be provided with a minimum of one week's notice of the commencement of on-site works. contact numbers for the site will be forwarded in advance of the work starting.

10 References

ADS, 2023, Archaeology Data Service, available at:
<https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice/DepositingData.xhtml#How%20to%20Deposit>

Campbell, G., Moffett, L., & Straker, V., 2011, *Environmental Archaeology; A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*, English Heritage, (Second Edition)

ClfA, 2014 (updated Oct 2020), *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

ClfA, 2020, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

DCLG (Department of Communities and Local Government). 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Historic England, 2011, *Environmental Archaeology; A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation*, Historic England, (2nd edition)

Historic England, 2015a, *The Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*, (MoRPHE), Project Managers' Guide, Historic England.

Historic England, 2015b, *Digital Image Capture and File Storage*, Historic England

Historic England, 2016, *Standards for Recording Pottery in Archaeology*, Historic England

ULAS 2015, *Archaeological Investigations at Odstone Barn, Hall Road, Odstone, Leicestershire*. Report Ref: 2015-175

Online Sources

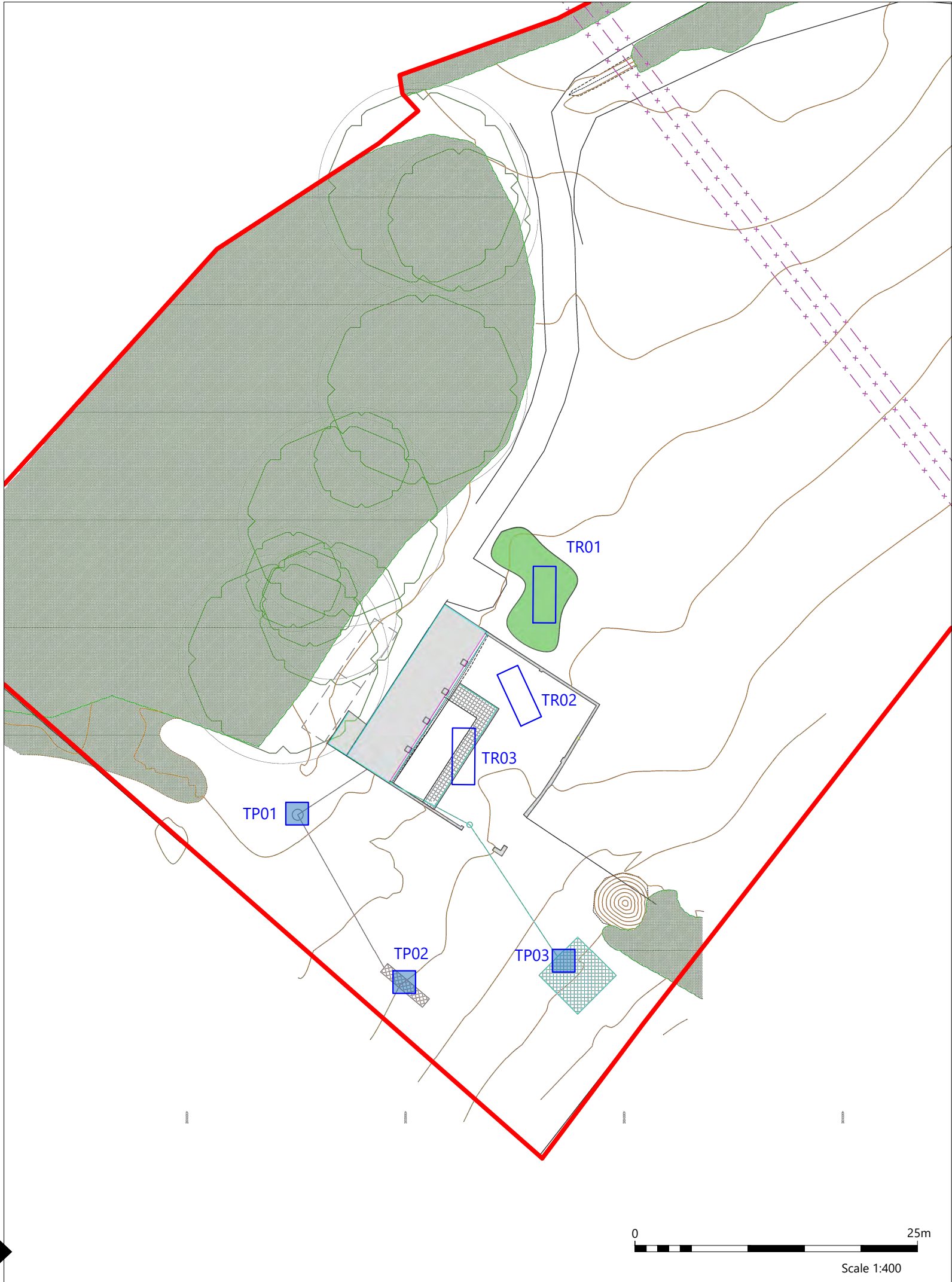
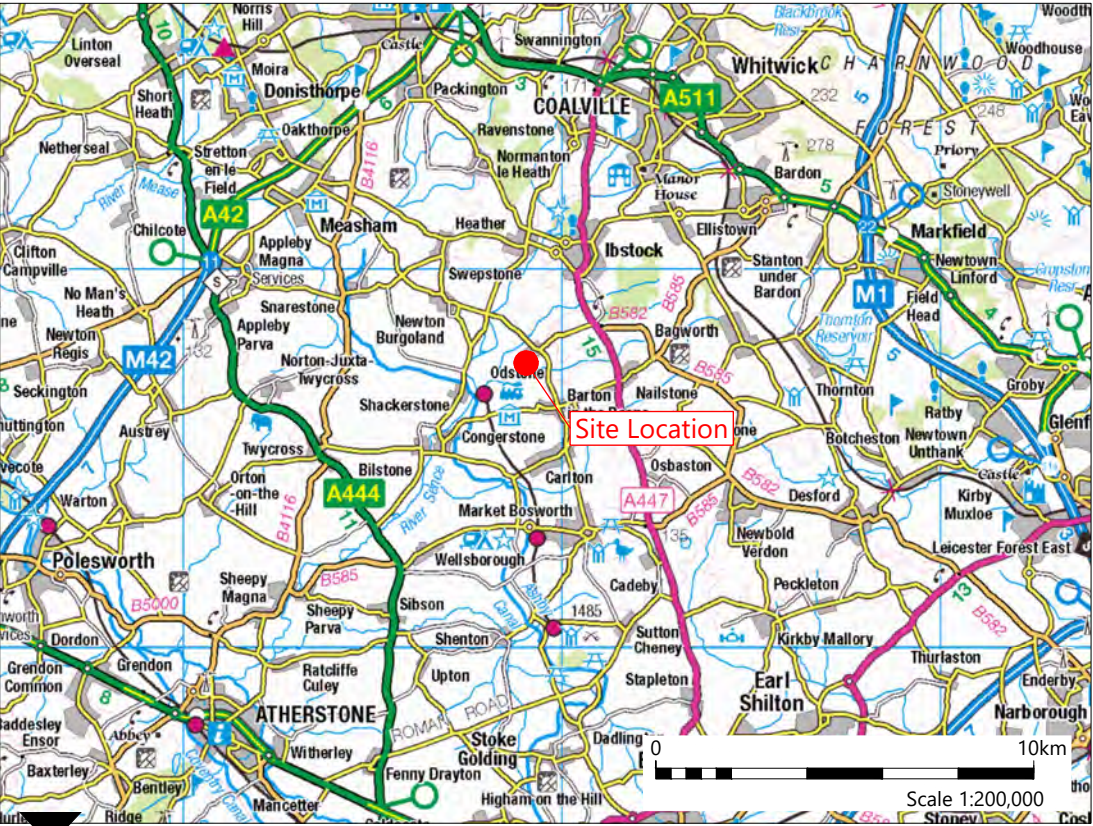
British Geological Survey, 2023, *Geology of Britain (viewer)*,
<https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/> [Accessed 21/08/2023]

ClfA, 2022, *Planning – Data Management Plans*,
<https://www.archaeologists.net/digdigital/planning> [Accessed 21/08/2023]

Historic England, 2023, *Aerial Archaeology Mapping Viewer*,
<https://historicengland.maps.arcgis.com/> [Accessed 21/08/2023]

LandIS, 2022, *Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute Soilscales*,
<http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales> [Accessed 21/08/2023]

Figures



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Proposed Trench Layout
- Proposed Test Pit Layout

Reproduced with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationary Office, © Crown copyright. CFA Archaeology Ltd, Old Engine House, Eskmills Park, Musselburgh EH21 7PQ AL100034785

Title:
Site Location and Proposed Trench Layout

Project:
Land Off Hall Lane, Oyston, Leicestershire

Client:
Lampard Partnership

Scale at A3:
Varies

Drawn by: SB	Checked: SW	Date: 15/03/2024
Report No: WSI		Fig. No: 1



CFA ARCHAEOLOGY
www.cfa-archaeology.co.uk

HEAD OFFICE - Musselburgh

Old Engine House
Eskmills Park, Musselburgh
East Lothian, EH21 7PQ

t: +44 (0) 131 273 4380
e: enquiries@cfa-arch.co.uk

Leeds

Clayton Works Business Centre
Midland Road
Leeds, LS10 2RJ

t: +44 (0) 113 271 6060
e: yorkshire@cfa-arch.co.uk

Milton Keynes

Suite 11, Letchworth House
Chesney Wold, Bleak Hall
Milton Keynes, MK6 1NE

t: +44 (0) 1908 226 124
e: miltonkeynes@cfa-arch.co.uk

Carlisle

Warwick Mill Business Village
Warwick Bridge, Carlisle
Cumbria, CA4 8RR

t: +44 (0) 1228 564 531
e: cumbria@cfa-arch.co.uk

Sheffield

Office 5, Ecclesfield Business Centre
46 Stocks Hill, Ecclesfield
Sheffield, S35 9YT

t: +44 (0) 114 327 1108
e: sheffield@cfa-arch.co.uk

Leicester

Business Box
3 Oswin Road, Brailsford Industrial Estate
Leicester, LE3 1HR

t: +44 (0) 116 279 5156
e: leicestershire@cfa-arch.co.uk

Hertfordshire

Amwell House
9 Amwell Street, Hoddesdon
Hertfordshire, EN11 8TS

t: +44 (0) 845 017 9847
e: herts@cfa-arch.co.uk